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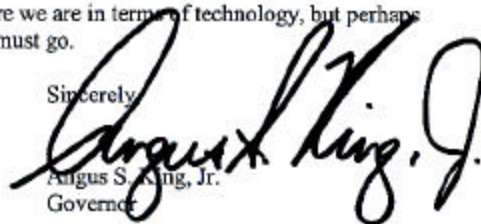
Telecommunications and Information Technology have made Maine State Government better and more responsive to the needs of Maine citizens. Our initiatives to put government online and provide e-government services have born fruit.

State Government's role, however, has gone beyond adopting technology for its own purposes. It should, and has, fostered the implementation of technology in our universities, colleges, secondary and primary schools. These tools do not just improve the quality of education in the basics and open access to diversified informational resources; but they provide students with the new skill sets needed by businesses and citizens in our information age.

The State's adoption of e-government has also provided a stimulus for private sector development. The State's investment sped the development of a robust information network backbone that links both urban and rural areas to the national and global economy. The backbone has allowed Maine to develop and attract new technology industries. The State's e-government initiatives have also provided a catalyst and training for traditional industries to adopt new e-commerce technologies that will make them competitive in the world economy.

What follows is a report on where we are in terms of technology, but perhaps more importantly, it outlines where we must go.

Sincerely,



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